

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/748,542

Examiner

Michael N. Opsasnick

Applicant(s)

ITOH ET AL.

Art Unit

2655

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment refiled on 11/8/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 16-23, 27-34 and 38-46.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 26 December 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>3/19/2001</u> | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 16-23,27-34,38-46 are allowable over the prior art of record.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claims 16,22,30,34,38,39, the claim limitation pertaining to a third or fourth or fifth probability calculator, wherein said third or fourth or fifth probability calculator calculates said probability based on said first and/or second language model, if said conditional words have been judged as containing only non-disfluency words by said second judging processor is not taught in prior art. In addition, the claim limitation pertaining to a third judging processor, wherein said third judging processor judges whether a word immediately preceding said object word is a disfluency word; and a fourth or fifth probability calculator, wherein said fourth or fifth probability calculator calculates said probability based on said first and/or said second language models, if said preceding word has been judged a disfluency word by said third judging processor is not taught in prior art. Furthermore, it would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of the prior art of record to obtain the recited limitations as noted above.

With respect to the prior art of record, the combination of Padmanabhan et al., Tang et al. and Stolcke et al. teach a second processor with a first language model and a second probability

Art Unit: 2655

calculator to that deal with words that have been judged non disfluent(Fig 2 (3,5, 8)). However, the combination of Padmanabhan et al., Tang et al. and Stolcke et al. do not teach a third or fourth or fifth probability calculator, wherein said third or fourth or fifth probability calculator calculates said probability based on said first and/or second language model, if said conditional words have been judged as containing only non-disfluency words by said second judging processor. The combination of Padmanabhan et al., Tang et al. and Stolcke et al. teach the use of a judging processor and a fourth and fifth probability function for determining the location and type of disfluent word. The combination of Padmanabhan et al., Tang et al. and Stolcke et al. do not teach a third judging processor that judges whether a word immediately preceding said object word is a disfluency word; and a fourth or fifth probability calculator, wherein said fourth or fifth probability calculator calculates said probability based on said first and/or said second language models, if said preceding word has been judged a disfluency word by said third judging processor.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee.

Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Opsasnick, telephone number (703)305-4089, who is available Tuesday-Thursday, 9am-4pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ms. Doris To, can be reached at (703)305-4827. The facsimile phone number for this group is (703)872-9306.

Art Unit: 2655

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group 2600 receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4750, the 2600 Customer Service telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Mno

1/12/05



DAVID L. OMETZ
PRIMARY EXAMINER